

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked-up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis, underlined text indicating insertions, and strike through and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Filter module comprising:

[[-]] a housing with a first open end and a second open end;

[[-]] membrane holders which are arranged in the housing for the purpose of containing membranes which extend substantially between the first open end and the second open end, wherein the membrane holders are arranged on the inner wall of the housing via at least one coupling device comprising at least one rib, extending in a lengthwise direction and at least one groove extending in the lengthwise direction, wherein the at least one rib is associated with and guided in the at least one groove.

2. (Original) Filter module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the membrane holders comprise a number of elongate sides which are mutually connected via the longitudinal sides.

3. (Original) Filter module as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least two longitudinal sides of a membrane holder can be disconnected from each other in order to bend open the membrane holder.

4. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the elongate sides comprises a channel extending in lengthwise direction.

5. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 2, wherein the elongate sides are at least partially perforated.

6. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 2, wherein spacers are arranged on the elongate sides to ensure a predetermined distance between membrane holders.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) Filter module as claimed in ~~claim 7~~claim 1, wherein the at least one coupling device comprises at least one rib extending in lengthwise direction and the membrane holders comprise at least one groove extending in lengthwise direction.

9. (Currently Amended) Filter module as claimed in ~~claim 7~~claim 1, wherein the at least one coupling device comprises at least two ribs extending in lengthwise direction, and at least one membrane holder is provided on either side with grooves extending in lengthwise direction, wherein the distance between the grooves is substantially equal to the distance between the ribs.

10. (Withdrawn) Filter module comprising:

- a housing with a first open end and a second open end;
- membrane holders which are arranged in the housing for the purpose of containing membranes which extend substantially between the first open end and the second open end, wherein the membrane holders lie against each other and against the inner wall.

11. (Withdrawn) Method for assembling a filter module, the method comprising:

- providing an assembling device which comprises a number of elongate basic elements hingedly connected to each other in longitudinal direction;
- providing membrane holders;
- filling the membrane holders with membranes;
- arranging the filled membrane holders slidably on the basic elements;
- folding together the arranged membrane holders; and
- sliding the filled membrane holders from the basic elements into the filter housing.

12. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one of the elongate sides comprises a channel extending in lengthwise direction.

13. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 3, wherein the elongate sides are at least partially perforated.

14. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the elongate sides are at least partially perforated.

15. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 14, wherein spacers are arranged on the elongate sides to ensure a predetermined distance between membrane holders.

16. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 15, wherein the membrane holders are arranged on the inner wall of the housing via at least one coupling device.

17. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one coupling device comprises at least one rib extending in lengthwise direction and the membrane holders comprise at least one groove extending in lengthwise direction.

18. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one coupling device comprises at least two ribs extending in lengthwise direction, and at least one membrane holder is provided on either side with grooves extending in lengthwise direction, wherein the distance between the grooves is substantially equal to the distance between the ribs.

19. (Withdrawn) Method for assembling a filter module as claimed in claim 1, the method comprising:

- providing an assembling device which comprises a number of elongate basic elements hingedly connected to each other in longitudinal direction;
- providing membrane holders;
- filling the membrane holders with membranes;
- arranging the filled membrane holders slidably on the basic elements;
- folding together the arranged membrane holders; and
- sliding the filled membrane holders from the basic elements into the filter housing.

20. (Withdrawn) Method for assembling a filter module as claimed in claim 10, the method comprising:

- providing an assembling device which comprises a number of elongate basic elements hingedly connected to each other in longitudinal direction;
- providing membrane holders;
- filling the membrane holders with membranes;
- arranging the filled membrane holders slidably on the basic elements;
- folding together the arranged membrane holders; and
- sliding the filled membrane holders from the basic elements into the filter housing.

21. (Previously Presented) Filter module comprising:

a housing with a first open end and a second open end; and

a plurality of membrane holders which are arranged in the housing for the purpose of containing membranes which extend substantially between the first open end and the second open end,

wherein each of the membrane holders is connected to the inner wall of the housing.

22. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 21, wherein each membrane holder comprises a first part and a cap releasably connected to said first part.

23. (Withdrawn) Filter module as claimed in claim 22, wherein said cap is hingedly connected to said first part.

24. (Previously Presented) Filter module as claimed in claim 22, wherein the cap or the first part includes a channel forming a bypass in the filter module.